



CONSTITUTION OR RULES,

For the government of the affairs of the Church and congregation, known by the name of the **McNAB STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HAMILTON**, adopted and agreed upon by the members of the said congregation, at a meeting held for the purpose, on the first day of June, A. D. 1857.

1. That the place of worship and the real estate now belonging to the congregation, and any other buildings or real estate which may hereafter become the property of the congregation, shall be held in trust, by five individuals who shall be members in full communion with the said congregation, for the use of the said congregation, in the manner provided in by the deed of trust, prepared for that purpose; but the said Trustees and their successors shall not, as Trustees, have any control or management in the affairs of the said congregation.

2. That the members in full communion with the said congregation, and whose names shall appear on the communion roll of the congregation, shall have the sole power of choosing and electing the Minister or Pastor of the said congregation, as well as the Elders of the same.

3. That all meetings, for the choosing or nominating of a Minister or Pastor, shall be called from the pulpit of the place of worship, occupied by the said congregation, when the congregation is present on the two Sabbath days immediately preceding such meeting, and that the majority of the members in full communion with said congregation, and whose names shall appear on the communion roll of the congregation, shall determine the nomination or choice; and also that all further steps to be taken in the election and call of a Minister or Pastor, shall be proceeded with, in accordance with the laws of the church.

4. That the method of the election of Elders shall be determined upon, from time to time, as occasion may require, by the Session of said congregation, but that the election be by the members in full communion with the congregation, and that such election be publicly announced from the pulpit of the place of worship occupied by the said congregation, in manner as aforesaid, at least on the two Sabbaths immediately preceding the day of such election; and further, that said election be a public election.

5. That the election of Deacons shall be in like manner as set forth in the foregoing rule.

6. That the election of Precentor shall also be proceeded with in the same manner.

7. That all the revenues of the congregation arising from whatever source, shall be received by the Deacons of said congregation, and disbursed by them in payment of whatever debt, or interest on debt that may be owing by said congregation, the Minister's stipend, the salaries of the various Officers, and all other contingent expenses; as also such expense as may be necessary for preserving the property and providing for the dispensation of Divine ordinances.

8. That a public meeting of the said congregation shall be held in the month of May, in each and every year to be called from the pulpit of the place of worship occupied by the congregation, when the congregation is present, on the two Sabbaths immediately preceding such meeting. That at said meeting the Deacons shall submit an abstract of their proceedings, and a full statement of the income and expenditure of the congregation during the preceding year; and further that said annual meeting shall have the power of regulating the proportion of all monies and revenue, to be applied to any particular purpose; and also that the said Deacons shall be guided in their expenditure of such revenue, by the decision of said annual meeting.

9. That the pews in the said place of worship shall be allocated or rented once in every six months, in each and every year, and that the manner and method of deriving the revenue from such allocation, or rental shall be decided by the congregation.

10. That in the event of a special meeting of the congregation, for congregational purposes, being deemed necessary by any twenty members of said congregation, such meeting shall, on the Session being duly memorialized, be called by them, in the manner provided for in the eighth article of this Constitution; and further, that all contested questions of whatever nature, raised at such special meeting, or at any public meeting of the congregation, shall, in all cases, be decided by the votes of the members in full communion with the said congregation.

11. That the foregoing rules shall be in force until altered or amended by the said congregation, and that no motion to alter or amend said rules shall be put, unless due notice of such motion shall have been given at the previous annual meeting of the congregation, and when such notice of motion has been made, the same shall be considered at the next annual meeting; notice of said proposed alteration or amendment having been publicly announced from the pulpit, on the two Sabbath days immediately preceding said annual meeting.